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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/676,327	09/30/2003	Minoru Takatsuka	09871/0200096-US0	6524

7278 7590 09/21/2006

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EXAMINER

STIGELL, THEODORE J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3763

DATE MAILED: 09/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/676,327

Applicant(s)

TAKATSUKA ET AL.

Examiner

Theodore J. Stigell

Art Unit

3763

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 6/21/2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 18 and 19 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,11-13 and 15-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-10,14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-2, 11-13, and 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hodosh (6,159,161). Hodosh disclose an electric syringe that can inject a dental anesthetic by pressing a rubber plug of a cartridge filled with anesthetic, thereby injecting the anesthetic from a needlepoint of a dental needle connected to the cartridge, the electric syringe comprising a push member (58) configured to press and move the rubber plug (16) of the cartridge (12), a drive motor (202) configured to generate a drive force, a transmission member (204) configured to transmit the drive force to the push member, and a control unit (200) configured to control a moving of the push member by controlling the drive motor, and wherein the control unit controls the drive motor to move the push member to gradually increase an injection speed of the anesthetic in the beginning of the injection and to move the push member to a constant injection speed after a predetermined time has elapsed, and further comprising a sound output unit configured to output sound wherein the control unit controls the sound output. It is the position of the Examiner that any motorized device will output sound

when in use and the sound will be reflected by which speed the control designates. The device further includes a cartridge holding connecting part (34) and a cartridge holder (28) configured to hold the cartridge and configured to be connectable to the connecting part, wherein the holder can hold cartridges of different lengths.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3-10 and 14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 18-19 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 6/21/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In response to the Applicant's arguments that Hodosh does not disclose a control unit that "controls the drive motor to move the push member to gradually increase an injection speed of the anesthetic in the beginning of the injection and to move the push member to inject the anesthetic in a constant injection speed after a predetermined time has elapsed", the Examiner respectfully disagrees. The Examiner believes that this limitation is specifically met by the embodiment shown in Figure 9 and described in column 10, lines 20-24.

In response to the Applicant's argument that Hodosh does not disclose a sound output unit that "is configured to output a buzzing or melodic sound", the Examiner respectfully disagrees. It is the Examiner's position that the sound produced by the Hodosh device is a buzzing sound.

In response to the Applicant's argument that Hodosh does not disclose a cartridge holder with a capability for holding cartridges of different lengths, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. The cartridge holder is certainly capable of holding cartridges that are smaller than the ones depicted in the drawings.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Theodore J. Stigell whose telephone number is 571-272-8759. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nicholas Lucchesi can be reached on 571-272-4977. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3763

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Theodore J. Stigell


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